JUN 0 7 2000 E. Docket No.: 515-4181

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Giovanni Abatangelo et al.

) Group Art Unit: 1643

Serial No.: 09/445,604

) Examiner: C. Washington

Filed: December 7, 1999

For: HYALURONIC ACID DERIVATIVE BASED CELL CULTURE AND BIODEGRADABLE THREE-DIMENSIONAL MATRIX

New York, NY 10036 June 5, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed prior to examination to revise the claims into better form for examination. Kindly amend the above named application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly cancel claims 1-27 and add the following claims:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington DC 20231

On: June 5, 2000

Karen Greenberg, Registration No.: 45,786